



Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1) (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for providing ~~online~~ remote participation in a live auction, the method comprising:

capturing live images of the live auction and live images of a property being auctioned;

storing into a server at least the live images of the property being auctioned;

~~transmitting over a computer communications network a description at least the live images of a piece of the property to be auctioned and a real time video image of a scene depicting a live auction of the property;~~

receiving a bid for the property ~~via the computer communications network~~;

presenting the bid to an auctioneer; and

transmitting a notification of a winning bid.
- 2) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising storing into the server the live images of the live auction and transmitting a video image the live images of the live auction of the property.
- 3) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising calculating a highest bid received via the ~~computer~~ communications network and presenting the highest bid to an auctioneer involved in auctioning the property.
- 4) (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the presentation of the highest bid to the auctioneer is accomplished with an electronic display.

- 5) (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the presentation of the highest bid to the auctioneer is accomplished via a surrogate bidder.
- 6) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising capturing real time video images of multiple scenes depicting the live auction; and
making the multiple real time images available via the computer communications network.
- 7) (Original) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising the step of verifying the financial credibility of a bidder submitting a bid.
- 8) (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 additionally comprising:
tracking multiple auctions with corresponding live images and bids;
processing a bid is received for a particular property; and
transmitting the bid to a corresponding auction house server.
- 9) (Currently amended) A computer system for providing online participation in a live auction, the system comprising:
a computer server accessible via a computer communications network, wherein the server comprises a memory and a processor;
a multimedia device capable of inputting scenes from the live auction and live scenes of a property being auctioned into the server; and
executable software residing in the server memory wherein the software is operative with the processor to:
cause a scene input by the multimedia device to be transmitted over the communications network;
receive a bid via the communications network; and

transmit a notification relating a winning bid via the communications network.

- 10) (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the software is executable on demand via the network access device.
- 11) (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the network access device comprises a computer.
- 12) (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the computer communication network conforms to the transmission control protocol/internet protocol.
- 13) (Original) The computer system of claim 9 wherein the computer communication network comprises an intranet.
- 14) (Original) The computer system of claim 9 additionally comprising a WEB interface for accessing the executable software stored on the server storage medium.
- 15) (Currently amended) A computer system for managing online participation in multiple live auctions, the system comprising:

an auction host computer server accessible via a computer communications network, wherein the auction host server comprises a memory and a processor;

an auction house computer server for communicating with the auction host computer server via the communications network;

a multimedia device capable of inputting a scene from a live auction and scenes of a property being auctioned into the auction house computer server; and

executable software residing in the auction host computer server memory, wherein the software is operative with the processor to:

cause a scene input by the multimedia device to be transmitted over the communications network;

receive a bid for an auctioned property via the communications network; and

transmit the bid to the auction house server.

- 16) (Original) The computer system of claim 15 wherein the multimedia device is a video camera.
- 17) (Original) The computer system of claim 15 wherein the software is additionally operative with the processor to transmit a notification of a winning bid.
- 18) (Original) The computer system of claim 15 wherein the software is additionally operative with the auction host computer server to calculate a highest bid received for an auctioned property and transmit only a currently highest bid.
- 19) (Original) The computer system of claim 15 additionally comprising a display screen for displaying bids received for a particular property to a bidding crowd involved in the auction of that property.
- 20) (Currently amended) Computer executable program code residing on a computer-readable medium, the program code comprising instructions for causing the computer to:

transmit a description and a live image of a piece of property to be auctioned and a real time video image of a scene depicting a live auction of the property over a computer communications network;

receive a bid for the property via the computer communications network; and

transmit a notification of a winning bid via the computer communications network.
- 21) (Original) The computer executable program of claim 20 wherein the program code additionally causes the computer to:

track multiple auctions with corresponding images and bids;

calculate a highest bid received for a particular property; and

transmit the highest bid to a corresponding auction house server.

22) (Currently amended) A user interface for participating in a live auction, the interface comprising:
an electronic display connected to a network access device and multiple display areas defined on the display, wherein at least one of the display areas depicts a live image of a property being auctioned various scenes depicting a live auction are displayed in the various areas.

23) (Currently amended) A computer readable medium containing a set of instructions for causing a computer to A computer data signal embodied in a digital data stream, wherein the computer data signal is generated by a method comprising the steps of:
transmitting transmit over a computer communications network a description and a live video image of a piece of property to be auctioned and a real time video image of a scene depicting a live auction of the property;
receiving receive a bid for the property via the computer communications network; and
transmitting transmit a notification of a winning bid via the computer communications network.

2324) (Currently amended) The computer readable medium according to claim 23, further causing a computer to data signal of claim 23 wherein the data signal is generated by a method additionally comprising the steps of:
tracking track multiple auctions with corresponding images and bids;
calculating calculate a highest bid received for a particular property; and
transmitting transmit the highest bid to a corresponding auction house server.

2425) (Currently amended) [[A]] The computer readable medium according to claim 23, wherein a transmission is compatible with at least one internet transmission protocol computer data signal as in claim 23 wherein the signal generated adheres to the transmission control protocol/internet protocol.